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6715/64957

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Masayoshi NOGUCHI et al.  
Serial No.: 10/088,179  
Filed: July 19, 2001  
For: DIGITAL SIGNAL ENCODING APPARATUS AND METHOD, DIGITAL  
SIGNAL DECODING APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND DIGITAL SIGNAL  
TRANSMITTING SYSTEM  
Date: July 24, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application.

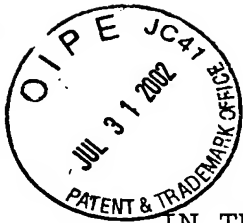
- ☒ No fee is required.
- ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below.
- ☐ Total claims in excess of \_\_\_ previously paid for, at \$18 (\$9) \_\_\_
- ☐ Independent claims in excess of \_\_\_ previously paid for, at \$84 (\$42) \_\_\_
- ☐ Additional Fee for this Amendment \_\_\_
- ☐ This Response is being filed within the \_\_\_ first month, \_\_\_ second month, \_\_\_ third month, \_\_\_ fourth month, \_\_\_ fifth month following the expiration of the term originally set therefor. Applicants Petition for an extension, and the fee of \_\_\_ \$110 (\$55), \_\_\_ \$400 (\$200), \_\_\_ \$920 (\$460), \_\_\_ \$1,440 (\$720), \_\_\_ \$1,960 (\$980) is due and paid herewith.
- ☐ The fee of \$ \_\_\_ set by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for the Information Disclosure Statement is due and paid herewith.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$ 0.00 is attached.
- ☒ Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

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Applicants: Masayoshi NOGUCHI et al.

Serial No.: 10/088,179

Filed: July 19, 2001

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DIGITAL SIGNAL DECODING APPARATUS AND METHOD,  
AND DIGITAL SIGNAL TRANSMITTING SYSTEM

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with  
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

JAY H. MAIOLI  
Reg. No. 27,213

Date

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July 24, 2002  
1185 Avenue of the Americas  
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the initial examination of the above-identified  
application, Applicants respectfully request that the  
application be amended as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure by rewriting  
same to read as follows:

--A digital signal encoding apparatus for encoding one-  
bit signals of a plurality of  $n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) channels that is  
modulated in a delta-sigma manner, including a channel